

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 have been examined, and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,873,659 to Edwards et al. (“Edwards”).

Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Edwards.

A. Claim 1

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference. For example, claim 1 recites a setup change unit that updates contents of a print setup when the computer operates a menu.

The Examiner maintains that such a setup change unit is disclosed in col. 6, lines 45-60 of Edwards. However, in regard to any change of information, the cited portion of Edwards merely discloses that the job structure, which is associated with each print job, is capable of being modified during the printing process to update the status of the job (col. 6, lines 59-60).

Applicant submits that updating the “status” of a job *during* printing, fails to teach or suggest the updating of contents of a “print setup” when a computer operates a menu, where the contents of the print setup will be used to generate a configuration file that will in turn be used to print a document.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that Edwards fails to teach or suggest the claimed setup change unit, and respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

B. Claim 2

Since claim 2 is dependent upon claim 1, Applicant submits that such claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

C. Claim 3

Applicant submits that claim 3 is patentable over the cited reference. For example, claim 3 recites that the menu includes upper directories for individual entries in the print setup, and lower directories that are generated for individual setup values, one of which is included in each of the individual entries.

The Examiner maintains that Fig. 5 of Edwards discloses the above features (pg. 5 of Office Action). However, Fig. 5 of Edwards merely depicts a list box 152 which contains print jobs that are internal to a particular printer, and list box 154 that can show similar information of jobs that are still in queue at the host computer (col. 15, lines 19-28). Even if Applicant assumes *arguendo* that the list box 152 discloses the claimed upper directory, and the individual print jobs of list box 152 disclose the claimed individual entries, the reference still fails to teach or suggest the claimed lower directories. For example, there is no other directory, i.e., a lower directory, that shows individual setup values that are included in each of the individual entries of list box

152. Rather, as stated above, the list box 154 just shows jobs still in queue at the host computer, and is not related to the jobs of list box 152 that are internal to a particular printer.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that Edwards fails to teach or suggest the features recited in claim 3. In addition, Applicant submits that claim 3 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency upon claim 1.

D. Claims 4, 5, 8 and 12-18

Since claims 4, 5, 8 and 12-18 contain features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicant submits that claims 4, 5, 8 and 12-18 are patentable for at least analogous reasons as claim 1.

E. Claim 6

Since claim 6 is dependent upon claim 5, Applicant submits that such claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

F. Claim 7

Since claim 7 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 3, Applicant submits that claim 7 is patentable for at least analogous reasons as presented above for claim 3. In addition, Applicant submits that claim 7 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency upon claim 5.

G. Claim 9

Since claim 9 is dependent upon claim 8, Applicant submits that such claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

H. Claim 10

Applicant submits that claim 10 is patentable over the cited reference. For example, claim 10 recites that when the host computer moves print data included in the menu to a different printer via a user interface means, the first printer to receive the print data transmits the print data stored in the storage means to a different printer.

The Examiner maintains that col. 7, line 63 and col. 8, lines 1-16 of Edwards teaches the above features. However, the cited portion of Edwards merely discloses that the host computer can download data to various printers on a network (col. 8, lines 8-16). The cited portion fails to teach or suggest that the various printers themselves transmit print data to one another when the host computer moves the print data in the menu via a user interface means. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 10 is patentable over the cited reference.

In addition, since claim 10 is dependent upon claim 8, Applicant submits that such claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

I. Claim 11

Since claim 11 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 3, Applicant submits that claim 11 is patentable for at least analogous reasons as set forth above. In

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
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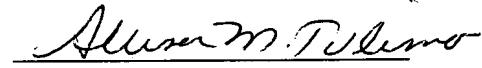
addition, since claim 11 is dependent upon claim 8, Applicant submits that such claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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